

We claim:

- 1 1. At a call server in a packet-based telephony network, a method of maintaining a record of
2 an active media connection comprising:
 - 3 sending a request, to a media gateway, for information regarding said active media
4 connection; and
 - 5 receiving said information.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein said sending comprises formulating said request using a
2 network management protocol.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2 wherein said network management protocol is the Simple
2 Network Management Protocol.
- 1 4. The method of claim 2 wherein said network management protocol is the Media Gateway
2 Control Protocol.
- 1 5. The method of claim 2 wherein said network management protocol is the Session
2 Initiation Protocol.
- 1 6. The method of claim 1 further comprising storing said received information in a memory.
- 1 7. The method of claim 1 further comprising repeating said sending at a predetermined
2 interval.
- 1 8. The method of claim 1 wherein said received information includes an identification of a
2 device originating said active media connection.
- 1 9. The method of claim 1 wherein said received information includes an indication of a
2 duration of time said active media connection has been active.
- 1 10. The method of claim 1 wherein said received information includes an indication of a
2 coding algorithm used for said active media connection.
- 1 11. The method of claim 1 wherein said received information includes an indication of
2 Quality of Service setting associated with said active media connection.

1 12. A call server operable to:

2 send a request, to a media media gateway, for information regarding an active media
3 connection; and

4 receive said information.

1 13. A computer readable medium containing computer-executable instructions which, when
2 performed by a processor in a call server in a packet-based telephony network, cause the
3 processor to:

4 send a request, to a media gateway, for information regarding an active media
5 connection; and

6 receive said information.

1 14. At a backup call server in a packet-based telephony network, a method of acquiring a
2 record of an active media connection comprising:

3 receiving an indication of a failure of a primary call server, said primary call server,
4 prior to said failure, supporting said active media connection;

5 responsive to said receiving, sending a request, to a media gateway, for information
6 regarding said active media connection; and

7 receiving said information.

1 15. At a media gateway in a packet-based telephony network, a method of providing a record
2 of an active media connection comprising:

3 receiving, from a call server, a request for information regarding said active media
4 connection; and

5 responsive to said request, transmitting information regarding said active media
6 connection to said call server.

1 16. The method of claim 15 wherein said request is received using the Simple Network
2 Management Protocol.

1 17. The method of claim 15 wherein said transmitted information includes a network address
2 of a device originating said active media connection.

1 18. The method of claim 15 wherein said transmitted information includes an indication of a
2 duration of time said active media connection has been active.

1 19. The method of claim 15 wherein said transmitted information includes an indication of a
2 coding algorithm used for said active media connection.

1 20. The method of claim 15 wherein said transmitted information includes an indication of
2 Quality of Service setting associated with said active media connection.

1 21. A first media gateway comprising:

2 a receiver for receiving an incoming media flow;

3 a digital signal processor communicatively connected to said receiver for processing
4 said media flow;

5 a transmitter communicatively connected to said digital signal processor for
6 transmitting said media flow to a second media gateway;

7 a processor operable to:

8 receive, from a call server, a request for information regarding said media
9 flow; and

10 responsive to said request, transmit information regarding said media flow to
11 said call server.

1 22. A computer readable medium containing computer-executable instructions which, when
2 performed by a processor in a media gateway, cause the processor to:

3 receive, from a call server, a request for information regarding an active media
4 connection; and

5 responsive to said request, transmit information regarding said active media
6 connection to said call server.

1 23. A packet-based telephony network system comprising:

2 a packet based data network;

3 a telephone station apparatus;

4 a media gateway communicatively connected to said telephone station apparatus and
5 said data network;

6 a primary call server communicatively connected, over said data network, to said
7 media gateway; and

8 a backup call server communicatively connected, over said data network, to said
9 media gateway and operable to:

10 send a request, to said media gateway, for information regarding an active
11 media connection terminated at said primary server; and

12 receive said information.

1 24. A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave comprising a request for information
2 regarding an active media connection.